

ST. LOUIS ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT

ESPRIT

Vol. 31 No. 4

Winner 1992 Army Communities of Excellence Award

April 1994

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Carlyle Visitor Center Grand Opening



The new Carlyle Lake Visitor Center is located adjacent to Lake Road near the location of the old visitor center.

The Carlyle Lake Chamber of Commerce will be hosting the grand opening of the new Carlyle Lake Visitor Center on May 7 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend the ceremony. There will also be a craft fair and a 5,000 gallon bass tub will be on display with Chris Hanus giving fishing demonstrations throughout the day.

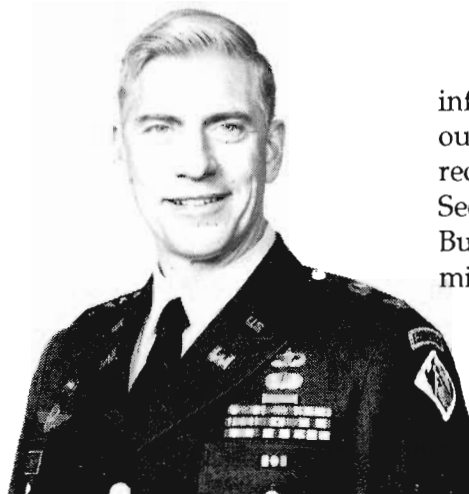
The new visitor center will be run as a joint operation between the Illinois Department of Conservation and the Corps of Engineers, the first time the Corps has run one of its visitor centers jointly with another agency. Employees along with volunteers will be working together to provide visitor information.

The new visitor center is 3500 square feet encompassing a lobby, exhibit room, multipurpose room, three bathrooms and an area where the Riverlands Association, Illinois Department of Conservation and Carlyle Lake Chamber of Commerce will offer items for sale. Hunting and fishing licenses as well as Golden Age and Golden Access passes will be available at the center.

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Commander's Perspective —



COL Thomas C. Suermann

When I assumed command I told you that I would share information with you as I received it, particularly if it dealt with our District's operations or Corps reorganization. This week I received a copy of Dr. G. Edward Dickey's (Acting Assistant Secretary of the Army) testimony for the Corps' FY95 Civil Works Budget, which he presented to the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development. Several items in his testimony provide insight to the future.

Almost all the FY95 budget categories have decreased from FY94 levels, except for the Regulatory Program, which has \$18 million more than FY94 (total Corps program). This budget increase, if it is approved, should help to improve the administration of our wetlands regulatory process.

Dr. Dickey testified that reorganization is the number one challenge for the Army Civil Works program. The Secretary of the Army is now working on a streamlining plan to realign the organization according to current needs. The Secretary will consider reorganizing our Corps' headquarters offices, reducing the number of division offices and restructuring district functions to increase program and administrative efficiency. I do not know what the details of these goals are yet, or the specific impacts, positive or negative, on our District. I will update you as I learn more.

While a potential reorganization plan is being developed, the Corps' and our District's workforce is being reduced as a result of the 12 percent Federal workforce reduction by FY99 called for in the National Performance Review (NPR). Our District will reduce to the high grade targets established for us through LMVD and to meet other personnel constraints. The HR Office is currently reviewing all supervisor positions for proper grade classification. Each supervisor should have submitted an accurate, current job description to assist HR in this effort. Our refinement of the District's structure will only be as accurate and timely as you make it. We have a timeline to report to LMVD our series of deliberate steps to refine our structure and align our organization with functional requirements for the future. I am counting on your expertise and support to assist me in this process.



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
St. Louis District

ESPRIT is an unofficial publication authorized under the provisions of AR 360-81. It is published monthly, by contract, in 1450 copies, by the Public Affairs Office, U.S. Army Engineer District, St. Louis. Views and opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army.

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Construction on Valley Park Flood Protection Project about to begin

Two years after the symbolic groundbreaking construction on the first phase of the \$19,000,000 Valley Park Flood Control Project is underway. Fru-Con Construction Company of Ballwin, Missouri, has ordered the fabrication of one of the more costly items in their contract, the massive trolley gate that will be rolled into place across St. Louis Avenue to block rising floodwater. The closure structure is the first phase of four phases of construction.

The first on-site work that local residents will notice since ground was broken for the project two years ago will begin in late March or early April and will involve construction of a detour for St. Louis Avenue. The contractor was unable to start this work until weather warmed enough to allow placement of asphalt paving. The contractor expects to complete all of his work by the first week of September, well ahead of the 240-day schedule established by the Corps.

The second item of work will include construction of a segment of levee along Fishpot Creek and construction of the Vance Road closure structure. A contract for this work is scheduled for award in July. The work should be completed in about nine months.

According to Ron Lindsay, the Project Manager, about 180,000 cubic yards of clayey soil (borrow material) will be used to construct the part of the levee included in the second phase. The overall project will require more than one million cubic yards, of which 40 percent or more will be obtained from on-site sources. After material is excavated or "borrowed," these sites will

be used to pond stormwater and for recreation.

The Corps has not yet decided on a source for the remaining 60 percent of the borrow material.

For the third phase of the project, levee construction will begin at St. Louis Avenue and extend northward and westward to border Simpson Lake and Grand Glaize Creek. The levee will end at the Burlington-Northern Railroad embankment. A construction contract for this work is scheduled to be awarded in March 1995.

The fourth and final phase of the project will begin at the Union Pacific Railroad embankment on the west and will extend the levee eastward along the riverfront to tie into the third phase levee at St. Louis Avenue. A swing gate type closure structure will be built where the levee will intersect with the Burlington-Northern Railroad embankment. This final contract is scheduled for award in October 1995. The overall project is expected to be completed by the winter of 1996.

The completed project will contain 3.2 miles of levee, three closure structures, various features for controlling interior drainage and several recreation areas. The project has been designed to protect Valley Park from a flood event having a one percent chance of occurring in any one year (sometimes called a "100-year" flood). An additional three feet (called "freeboard") will be added to the height of the levee to allow for unpredictable things that can happen during a flood, such as a buildup of obstructions in the river and wave wash.

By way of comparison, the highest recorded flood that oc-

curred in December 1982 was estimated to be a "70-year" event.

According to Ron Lindsay, the Corps has tried to layout the work so that the City can keep pace with its cost-sharing obligations and with its requirements to accomplish relocations and to acquire right-of-way. Lindsay said he is amazed that a city as small as Valley Park has been able to manage its resources in such a way that it can afford to cost-share the project.

Dierker award

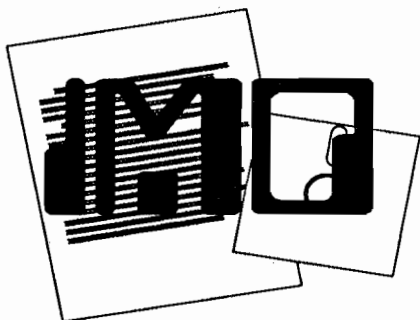
Steve Dierker, OD-N, was recently awarded a Public Service Commendation by the U.S. Coast Guard. The commendation was for his support of the Captains of the Ports of St. Louis, Missouri, and Paducah, Kentucky, in their efforts to reconstitute commercial vessel traffic on the flood ravaged Mississippi River system during the receding stages of the Great Flood of 1993.

Steve served as the Corps of Engineers representative in a Joint Information and Traffic Control Center where commercial navigation issues for all the flooded areas were handled.

Visitor Center cont.

Ground was broken for the new visitor center on February 9, 1993. Construction began in June 1993 and was completed in January of this year.

The original visitor center was opened in July 1978. It was destroyed by fire on November 4, 1990.



The wall that save St. Louis (again)

by Ron Jones, IM-P

When people discuss the "Wall" they may be speaking of the Great Wall of China or the former Berlin Wall (or perhaps even the Pink Floyd album). But in the St. Louis area the "Wall" usually discussed just happens to be one of the greatest success stories of the St. Louis District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The "Wall," of course, is the 11-mile stretch of floodwalls and levees which comprises the St. Louis Flood Protection Project.

Flood: A rising and overflowing of a body of water that covers land not usually under water.

Major Flood: See St. Louis - 1993, 1986, 1983, 1973, 1951, 1947, 1944, 1943, 1927, 1844, 1785.

Being located on one of the world's major rivers, St. Louis history includes many major floods. But flood control has not always been a river management initiative. Early river management initiatives focused on navigation. The first U.S. flood control act was not passed until 1 March 1917. The Flood

Control Act of 1936 declared flood control a legitimate federal responsibility and made the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers the nation's premier flood control agency. Following major floods of the Mississippi River at St. Louis in 1927, 1943, 1944, and 1947, local business and community leaders organized the non-profit St. Louis Flood Control Association to promote the necessity of flood protection for the St. Louis riverfront area. A method was needed to end the damage and disruption of industry and commerce in the St. Louis riverfront area caused by flooding. Effective flood control would also provide opportunities for growth and revitalization along the St. Louis riverfront. Efforts to protect the St. Louis riverfront from flooding were increased following the flood of 1951 (the fourth major flood of the Mississippi river at St. Louis in nine years).

On 27 November 1953, a plan for St. Louis flood protection was completed by the St. Louis District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The St. Louis Flood Protection Project was authorized by Congress in 1955. President Eisenhower signed the bill authorizing the project on 9 August 1955. It was determined that the flood protection wall for the City of St. Louis would cover an 11-mile stretch on the west bank of the Mississippi from Maline Creek to Chippewa Street (with the exception of the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial Area).

The greatest flood of record at St. Louis had occurred in 1844, having a discharge of 1,300,000 cfs., with a crest of 41.3 feet. It was concluded, however, that under current (1950s) conditions, a flood of the same magnitude of discharge would produce a crest of 52 feet on the St. Louis gage. Therefore, it

was determined that St. Louis protection should be designed for a peak discharge of 1,300,000 cfs., the same as the 1844 flood, or 52 feet on the St. Louis gage, with a minimum freeboard of two feet above the water surfaces.

Groundbreaking ceremonies for the St. Louis Flood Protection Project took place on 24 February 1959. Some of the dignitaries in attendance included: Raymond R. Tucker (Mayor of St. Louis), Leonor K. Sullivan (Missouri 3rd District Representative in Congress), Clarence Cannon (Missouri 9th District Representative in Congress), John Poelker (St. Louis City Comptroller), Morton Meyer (President of the St. Louis Flood Control Association), Colonel Charles Schweizer (St. Louis District Commander), and Milton Mindel (St. Louis District Project Coordinator).

The St. Louis District was responsible for all engineering design and inspection work. The St. Louis Flood Protection Project involved one of the most challenging design and construction jobs ever undertaken by the District. The project, essentially an earth and concrete dam, was to traverse one of the most dense industrial, communication, utility and inland waterfront complexes in the United States. The scope and complexity of alignment, foundation, structural, and hydraulic design, and of relocation of existing facilities to provide space for the flood protection structures, required new design innovations by the St. Louis District.

It was originally projected that over a 50-year period the

(Continued on next page)



benefits derived from the floodwall would exceed the cost of the project, which was originally estimated at \$130,000,000. Design modifications, refinement of designs, lower than anticipated construction bids, etc., helped keep the final cost at \$85,000,000, only 65 percent of the original estimate.

Fifteen years after the ground breaking, the St. Louis Flood Protection Project was officially dedicated on 21 May 1974. But the "Wall" had already saved St. Louis. Fortunately, the project was essentially complete when the great flood of 1973 occurred. Although the

(seven miles of floodwall and four miles of levees) it parallels the shoreline through and past loading docks, railroad yards, power plants, and many industrial complexes. The St. Louis Flood Protection Project is divided into two parts, or reaches. The upper reach extends from Maline Creek on the north to Eads Bridge on the south. The lower reach extends from Eads Bridge south to about Chippewa Street (excluding the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial area for which flood protection is not necessary). About 3000 acres of highly indus-

Midwest (including St. Louis) experienced its worst flooding in history. The record crest in St. Louis occurred on 1 August 1993 and reached 49.58 feet with 1,080,000 cfs. This was more than six feet higher than the previous record stage (43.31 feet in 1973).

Not only did St. Louis experience its worst flooding in history in terms of flood stage, but St. Louis was at flood stage for a total of 149 days, 104 of them consecutive. Not only did the "Wall" hold up to record river stage levels, but it did so for a much longer period of time than was ever envisioned to be necessary. The "Wall" saved an estimated \$680,000,000 during the Flood of 1993.

During the four major floods which have occurred at St. Louis since the "Wall" has existed (1973, 1983, 1986, 1993), the total estimated flood damage savings is \$929,801,000 (over 10 times its total cost).

Hopefully, it will be years before St. Louis experiences another major flood. But when that day comes, you can be sure you will again hear about "The wall that saved St. Louis."

Once per quarter the IMO Corner will be devoted to a historical article. If you have a topic about which you would like to see a historical article in ESPRIT, contact Ron Jones (JONESR), IM-P, 8645.

District wins concrete award

The St. Louis District was recently honored by the Concrete Council of St. Louis. The District was awarded one of the Concrete Council's 1994 Quality Concrete Awards for the concrete work at the Melvin Price Locks and Dam.

The certificate can be seen in the 4th floor lobby area.



The tip of the iceberg. Beneath these monoliths lay carefully designed foundations of concrete themselves founded on piling driven to bedrock. Foundation designs varied depending on soils and distance to bedrock.

great flood of 1973 produced a peak flood stage of 43.31 feet, 852,000 cfs, and a total of 81 days at or above flood stage, businesses and industries behind the floodwall were fully protected. The estimated damages prevented due to the project were \$160,000,000, almost twice the total cost of the project.

The St. Louis Flood Protection Project consists of 11 miles of floodwalls and levees, 28 pumping stations and alterations to 44 sewer systems. For its entire length

trialized and commercial property along the St. Louis riverfront is provided with flood protection.

The "Wall" did its job again during the two major floods at St. Louis during the 1980s. During the flood of 1983 (39.27 feet, 708,000 cfs), the "Wall" saved an estimated \$59,528,000. During the flood of 1986 (39.13 feet, 728,000 cfs), the "Wall" saved an estimated \$29,727,000.

The world watched during the summer of 1993 as the upper



On The Soapbox

Around the District

George Postol, Chief, Geotechnical Branch, spoke to members of the North Broadway Business Association about the Great Flood of '93 and how to better prepare themselves for future flooding. George also spoke to Coast Guard Disaster Response Personnel at the Commander Coast Guard Forces St. Louis Fleet Training Exercise about the condition of levees within the St. Louis District.

Claude Strauser, Chief, Potamology Section, was the speaker at the annual engineers week banquet in Rolla, Missouri, sponsored by the Rolla Chapter of the Missouri Society of Professional Engineers, the Mid-Missouri Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers and the Student Chapter of the National Society of Professional Engineers. Claude discussed the Great Flood of '93 and debunked the myths and misinformation that have been circulated about the high water. Claude also discussed the flood and discussed the spring flooding outlook at the Midwest Regional Meeting of the American Waterway Operators Association. Claude was the banquet speaker at the 29th annual meeting of the Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District. He spoke to about 200 people about the importance of working with nature while achieving improvements for the citizens of the Mississippi Valley. He also spoke about the history of the Middle Mississippi River and gave examples of how developing a safe and dependable navigation channel resulted in work restoring the river to its natural condition.

Joe Schwenk, Chief, Foundation Section, spoke at the March Techni-

cal Dinner Meeting of the Society of Allied Weight Engineers about the Flood of 1993.

Dave Busse, ED-HP, spoke at the United States Coast Guard Disaster Response Training Seminar about the Great Flood of 1993. Dave was also interviewed on the KMOX morning show about the flood.

Gary Dyhouse, Chief, Hydrologic Engineering Section, gave the keynote address to more than 300 attending the Southern Illinois Grounds Maintenance Conference and Trades Show. He was also interviewed by National Public Radio on the effects of levees on flooding during the 1993 flood.

Ray Kopsky, Jr., ED-HP, recently gave four presentations on the Flood of 1993. He spoke to the Illinois Department of Public Health and the West St. Louis County Rotary Club in January, the Wyoming Engineering Society in February and to Hazelwood East High School students in March.

Tom Hewlett, PD-F, spoke to the American Waterways Operators Midwest Regional Meeting about the status of the St. Louis Harbor Congestion Study.

Terry Norris, PD-AE, spoke to the 36th Missouri Conference on History on the Impact of Technological Change Upon Cultural Landforms in the Mississippi River Valley.

Wappapello Lake

Park Ranger Larry Hendershott represented the lake at the Southeast Missouri State University Career Day. Larry discussed career opportunities in the Corps of Engineers and summer employment for the stay in school program.

Park Ranger Doug Nichols was interviewed by Dennis Keaney of Radio Station KJEZ in Poplar Bluff, Missouri. The discussion was on the user fee issue and the Holliday Landing "no wake" request.

Park Ranger Andrew Jefferson discussed the effects of the winter storm on the lake level, road conditions and fishing conditions with the St. Louis Post Dispatch. Andrew also assisted in recruiting for the second group of students participating in the Natural Resource Career Camp (Outreach Program). Meetings were held in Cape Girardeau, Poplar Bluff, Hayti, Kennett, New Madrid, Sikeston, and Charleston.

Mark Twain Lake

Mark Twain Lake Rangers participated in several boat shows in February. These included shows in Columbia, St. Louis and Fulton, Missouri, and at Springfield, Illinois. They provided information concerning facilities, user fees, fishing and other events.

Park Rangers are conducting water safety programs at area schools. The students of 10 schools are also participating in a water safety poster contest during April. Winning posters will be used to promote water safety throughout the recreation season.

Park Ranger Diane Stratton gave a presentation at the Pere Marquette State Park Wetland Restoration and Development Seminar on re-regulation pool wetland areas. She discussed the management of six impoundments totaling 130 acres and how high pool levels allow managers the opportunity to flood wetlands simply by opening water control structures.



News Briefs

Waterfowl Task Force

Rend Lake Park Rangers Kevin Curran and Lowell Summers participated in the 1994 Spring Waterfowl Task Force Meeting with representatives from state and federal natural resource management agencies as well as members of private interest groups and interested citizens. Topics of discussion included the status of waterfowl populations, waterfowl hunting, management practices and future prospects.

New Camden

Congratulations to Wappapello Lake Park Ranger Dan Camden and his wife Lisa on the latest family addition. Matthew Glenn Camden was born on March 10, weighing in at 7 lbs, 12 oz.

Outdoors show

Park Rangers from around the District worked a booth at the 1994 RV and Travel Show in the Cervantes Convention Center. They provided literature for the public and answered questions concerning Corps facilities, user

fees and recreational opportunities.

Visitor center open

The M.W. Boudreaux Visitor Center at Mark Twain Lake was open on weekends during February. Visitors enjoyed the Hermann, Missouri, exhibit there during the month. This exhibit covered the history of Hermann, Missouri, from 1895 to 1920.

Stratton at MTL

The staff at Mark Twain Lake is happy to announce that Diane Stratton has joined the gang. Mrs. Stratton is the Natural Resource Ranger and oversees land and resource management activities.

Fish Habitat Day

The 14th annual Fish Habitat Day was held at Lake Shelbyville at the Bo Wood Recreation Area. Forty-five volunteers showed up to help place 950 Christmas trees in the northern part of the lake.

Depth markers

Maintenance workers at Lake Shelbyville designed and installed

new depth markers at four beaches. The new design will make it easier to adjust the position of the markers during fluctuating lake levels. In addition, the upright 4X4 marker post can be replaced without making a new concrete base. The new design will save money on material and maintenance.

Trees for fish

The Corps of Engineers and the Illinois Department of Conservation worked with about 40 volunteers to place about 2,000 trees into Carlyle Lake around Coles Creek to improve fish habitat.

Opening DOORS

Mark Twain Lake Park Ranger Shelly Howald attended a conference on Opening DOORS (Disabled Outdoors Organizations Recreation Symposium) at Jackson's Gap, Alabama. The conference's topics were on aquatic and outdoor accessibility and opportunities for people with disabilities.

Soapbox Continued

Rend Lake

Park Ranger Gary Campbell gave a program on Lyme Disease and how to protect yourself from ticks to Girl Scouts at the Benton Scout Log Cabin.

User fees was the topic of two programs by Park Ranger Ray Zoanetti. The first talk was to the Benton Rotary Club, the second to the Franklin County Tourism

Bureau. Park Manager Phil Jenkins and Assistant Park Manager Andrea Pickard have done many news media interviews on the same topic.

Park Ranger Lowell Summers spoke to Ducks Unlimited about waterfowl and resource management at Rend Lake.

Park Ranger Jerry Sauerwein gave an evening presentation to the Valier Women's Club on conservation. Jerry, along with Resource

Volunteer Louise Hatton, also gave a Woodsy Owl program to pre-schoolers at the Akin Grade School on the importance of a healthy environment.

Assistant Park Manager Andrea Pickard talked to the Southern Illinois University Forestry Club on career opportunities with the Corps of Engineers in environmental resource management.

(Continued on page 10)



After the quake

Our structures specialists in L.A.

The call he was expecting didn't come until Saturday, five days after the earthquake that shook Los Angeles. Vick James, one of five trained Urban Search and Rescue Structures Specialists in the St. Louis District, was heading west. Tom Niedernhofer, Gary Lee and Jeff Stamper would also be going. The District couldn't spare all five, so Dave Mueller would stay home.

The five were trained to support the Corps of Engineers mission under the Federal Disaster Response Plan. The plan is one of the federal government's preparations for disaster relief. The Corps' area of responsibility is public works and engineering. The Corps began training Urban Search and Rescue Structures Specialists in June 1992. Two of the first 15 trained were Vick James and Tom Niedernhofer. The Corps now has more than 70 people, nationwide, to staff the rescue task forces that will respond to disasters anywhere in the country.

The group arrived at Los Angeles Airport at Midnight Monday night, January 24th. But they didn't get to their hotel until 3:30 in the morning. They were initially sent to the wrong hotel, in Pasadena, only to find that their hotel was back in Los Angeles, and travel in some areas of Los Angeles was difficult because of the quake. The first thing they noticed when they finally walked into the lobby of the Biltmore Hotel in downtown Los Angeles was a section of the

ceiling that was missing. Welcome to shake, rattle and roll city!

They started bright and early the next morning. It would be 12 to 15 hour work days until they left.

The California Office of Emergency Services, various city officials and the Corps of Engineers were operating jointly out of a makeshift operations center in Pasadena's Oak Grove Park. There was a logistics office, fuel depot, supply tent, communications unit, food kitchen and small tent city for earthquake victims and workers set up there.

Our guys checked in, got briefed, got their equipment, got their assignments and got going. The watchword was speed. They were to perform "rapid inspec-

tions" on as many structures as they could as fast as they could, assess the damage and label them - green placards for no apparent structural hazards, yellow for limited entry allowed and red for unsafe, no entry allowed.

They were able to average about ten assessments a day. About 90 percent of the inspections were of residential structures, both apartments and single family dwellings. The rest were commercial buildings. "We didn't have time to look at everything," Tom Niedernhofer said. "In an apartment complex, for instance, we'd look at the units damaged the worst, and make our overall assessment based on that. Most of the really badly damaged structures were already tagged by city inspectors before we got there. We looked at the rest. We placed green placards on about 90 percent of what we looked at, structures just cosmetically damaged."

They were broken into two-man teams (James and Stamper; Niedernhofer and Lee) and worked for a number of different cities within Los Angeles County. They assessed damage and directed



COE/California Task Force Team shoring rear of medical building to provide safe access to remove records prior to demolition.



shoring work on partially collapsed buildings so residents could remove their belongings. Fire and rescue teams from did the actual shoring work.

At one apartment building Tom Niedernhofer inspected, the outer wall had sheared off. People woke up to find their beds sitting in the open air. "It was a hellava wakeup call," Niedernhofer said.

"This quake was different from most California quakes," Gary Lee said. "The majority of California quakes result in horizontal acceleration. This one moved both horizontally and vertically. It appears the vertical movement caused much more damage. People were literally picked up and thrown out of their beds."

"Most of the people out there who have quake insurance have a 10 to 15 percent deductible," Niedernhofer said. "The deductible is based on the value of the home, not the amount of damage. Most people can't afford that, considering the high cost of housing out there."

"The people were wonderful to us," Lee said. "Even though they were under tremendous stress, they were very gracious. They were just so glad to see us. One elderly lady burst into tears after we assessed her home and labeled it with a green placard. She said it was the first time she really felt safe since the quake."

Tom Niedernhofer said they felt compelled to go see the Northridge Meadows Apartment complex where 16 people were killed. The apartments at 9565 Reseda Boulevard were near the epicenter of the quake. "A lot of the apartments in the Los Angeles area are built on the same design as that one."

"People out there referenced the 1971 earthquake like we referenced the 1973 flood last year," James said. "That was sort of the quake



Partially collapsed store/apartment in Fillmore, California. Surprisingly, no one died in this building.

of record until this last one. The '71 quake was a horizontal quake and didn't damage buildings like the '94 quake."

Niedernhofer said they experienced three big aftershocks while they were there. "It felt like things were whipping back and forth." He said he had a huge painting with a heavy frame over the headboard of his bed on the 17th floor of the Marriott Hotel where they later stayed. It made him more than a little uneasy. He finally took it off the wall himself and found that it was being held by only one small drywall screw. "That was before one of the big aftershocks. I'm sure it would have fallen on me."

The rains began the day they left. With the rain came the mud slides. One more thing for Southern California residents to contend with. "It took us two hours to go the 15 miles to the airport on a five-lane highway" Lee said. "The people out there are uncomfortable driving in the rain. They're not used to it."

A recertification course is scheduled for August 1-5 for James, Niedernhofer, Mueller and Stamper in San Luis Obispo, California. There's a lot to learn and a lot to know to be the best you can be.

The Urban Search and Rescue Structures Specialists don't know when they'll be needed again. They hope it will be a long time from now. But whenever it is, they are ready. They'll say what the Corps has said for more than 200 years, show us the challenge, then let us try.



COE/California Task Force Team assessing a partially collapsed home in Fillmore, CA. The home was shored and made safe for access for owner to remove property.



Earth Notes

Why do we need trees ?

* Trees help supply the oxygen we need to breathe. Every acre of young trees can produce enough oxygen to keep 18 people alive.

* Trees help keep the air supply fresh by using up carbon dioxide that we exhale and engines emit.

* Trees use their leaf surfaces to trap and filter out ash, dust and pollen particles carried in the air.

* A moderate-sized tree has as much cooling effect in a city as a room air conditioner running 20 hours a day, according to the Indiana Department of Natural Resources.

* Using shade trees as air conditioners takes no electric power. Trees can cool a home by as much as 12 degrees on a hot summer day.

* Trees provide food and shelter for birds and wild animals.

* Trees slow down forceful winds.

* Trees cut noise pollution by acting as barriers to sound. A 100-foot width of trees absorbs six to eight decibels of sound.

* Decaying tree leaves replace minerals in the soil and enrich it.

* Sawmills bring employment to



Celebrate Earth Day
April 22, 1994

rural people who might otherwise migrate to overcrowded cities.

* Tree products are biodegradable and many can be recycled.

Radon, again

The Environmental Protection Agency states that radon is clearly among our most serious health issues. Some experts claim the EPA overestimates radon by monitoring basements, where it is about three times as high as it is on floors where people actually live. (EPA regulates indoor radon at one-fifth the level of Canada's standard.)

The American Journal of Public Health notes that people take health risks more seriously when responsibility and remedies fall on industry or government. They choose to ignore problems which they must correct themselves.

While further studies on the effects of radon are done, remember that it's best to keep your home well-ventilated. Don't spend a lot of time in the basement where levels are high.

New rabies vaccine

Genetically engineered rabies vaccines, together with more traditional rabies vaccines, are now being aimed at rabies in northeast-

ern Canada and the United States. The disease has reached epidemic proportions there among raccoons, according to Dr. Bruno Chomel of the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine. He notes that use of rabies vaccines for wildlife has been slower to come into use in North America, but have been used in Europe for a decade.

Alternative to wood

Kenaf is a woody plant related to hibiscus, cotton and okra. Cultivated in Egypt since about 4,000 B.C., the herbaceous annual is now seen by many as an alternative source of paper pulp which could replace pulp made from trees. Kenaf paper is being test marketed in California and has already been found to work well in high speed copiers.

KP Products of New Mexico, the primary source of kenaf paper in the U.S., says kenaf has another ecological benefit. It doesn't take as many chemicals to process, thus reducing environmental stress from chemicals.

Soapbox Continued

Carlyle Lake

Park Rangers Kim Mayhew and Tracy Ash presented ecology programs to more than 200 children. The two talked about recycling and demonstrated how to make paper by using paper that has been thrown away. Kim Mayhew also talked about how wildlife can be endangered by pollution.

Lake Shelbyville

Park Manager Winston Campbell spoke about the importance of the volunteer program and presented awards at the potluck banquet honoring the 30 volunteers who gave their free time to work at the lake in 1993. Volunteers donated 7,847 hours last year with a value of \$87,780.



Budget calls for civilian cuts, separation incentives

By Evelyn D. Harris
American Forces Information
Service

The president's proposed fiscal 1995 budget calls for DoD civilian employee rolls to drop to 873,000 by September 30, 1995.

By the end of fiscal 1999, only 793,900 civilians will be working for DoD under the proposal. This is about 10,000 employees below the 804,000 end-of-century goal set by the Bottom-up Review. For comparison, 1.133 million civilians worked for DoD in the post-Vietnam peak in fiscal 1987.

Managerial and supervisory positions will take a greater hit than rank and file positions. The plan calls for cutting high-grade positions by 9.6 percent, while rank and file positions will be cut 9 percent. This is in line with a presidential memorandum requiring DoD to halve its ratio of supervisors and managers to other

employees by the end of fiscal 1999.

The most recent figures show DoD has 111,200 people in managerial and supervisory positions. These positions range from GS-5 clerical supervisors to GM-13 scientists who are classified as managers strictly for pay purposes. By the end of fiscal 1999, the plan calls for a reduction to 47,200 supervisors and managers. To achieve this target, DoD personnel officials will review supervisory positions and flatten organizational structures when necessary.

To ease some pain of the impact of these cuts, defense officials said the fiscal 1995 budget includes \$1 billion for transition assistance for military and civilian personnel. This includes \$302 million for civilian separation incentives and \$72 million for transition and relocation assistance.

Under the Civilian Adjustment and Re-employment Program, DoD

placed about 5,400 civilian employees in other jobs, saving them from involuntary separation. To create placement opportunities and minimize involuntary separations, officials said they have been using voluntary separation incentives aggressively. They offer these buyout incentives of up to \$25,000 to employees in surplus skill categories or in areas undergoing a reduction in force.

In fiscal 1993, DoD gave incentives to 35,000 employees and had to lay off only 3,000 people. Major DoD industrial organizations such as the Army Materiel Command, the Air Force Materiel Command, the Navy Sea Systems Command, the Navy Air Systems Command and the Defense Logistics Agency have canceled reductions in force due to skillful use of separation incentives, said officials.

Congress still must vote on the administration's proposed budget.

Comfortable VTD use

Proper room lighting can have a significant impact on your visual comfort when using a video display terminal (VDT).

The American Optometric Association recommends lighting be about 20 to 50 foot candles, which is about half the level used in most offices.

Lower lighting can be achieved by using fewer bulbs or fluorescent tubes in fixtures or installing lower intensity tubes. Dimmer switches are also helpful.

VDT users should try to match the brightness of their surroundings with that of the terminal for

optimum comfort and efficiency. The contrast between the characters on the screen and the background, however, should be high.

Always take steps to avoid reflected glare on the screen by keeping it away from reflecting windows and other sources of bright light.

Give your eyes a rest. Do an alternate task for several minutes of every hour if you are a full-time user.

Sitting at the proper angle and distance from the screen is an important step in visual comfort. The chair should be configured so the screen is 14 to 20 inches from

the eyes with the top just below eye level.

Some VDT users place the screen on a stand, raising it higher and allowing a place to temporarily place reference material below it. In some cases the user is still comfortable, especially if use is not continuous.

Some users find they have to sacrifice the stand and the place for stashing materials because they have to "look up" slightly to work. Doing it for an entire day can cause discomfort in the neck.



U.S., NATO strategy in Sarajevo

By Evelyn D. Harris
American Forces Information
Service

Television brought the Sarajevo marketplace slaughter into American living rooms, prompting many to ask the government to "do something."

The United States has been "doing something" and will do more, but equally important is to fix in people's minds what it won't do, said Defense Secretary William J. Perry. The United States and its NATO allies have agreed upon a response to the escalating violence in Bosnia. But the U.S. security team began planning by clarifying what the parties involved were not going to do, he said.

"We are not going to attempt to impose a peace agreement on the warring factions by the use of military force. We are not going to invade the country and impose peace on them," he stated.

All involved are willing to do two things, he said. "First, we will undertake efforts to accelerate the achievement of a negotiated peace settlement," said Perry. But since the peace settlement process may be long, the second point is to reduce the violence in the meantime.

Over the past two years, U.S. policy in Bosnia has had four components, said Perry, in a recent speech to the New England Council of the American Electronics Association.

First, it has tried to limit the violence in the area to that end, the United Nations - not including the United States - has a 28,000-member peacekeeping force in Bosnia. The United States is part of sizable NATO air forces based in

Italy and on carriers in the Adriatic Sea. The air forces deny the skies to military aircraft operating in the former Yugoslavia and will provide close air support for peacekeeping forces if needed.

Second, a U.N. force, including U.S. troops, is based in Macedonia to prevent the war from spreading there - possibly involving Greece and Turkey.

Third, to mitigate the effects of violence, the United States has airlifted food to the area - the tonnage equal to that delivered during the Berlin Airlift in 1948.

Finally, said Perry, the United States supports peace talks and has agreed to be part of peacekeeping forces if an agreement is reached.

He said these efforts by the United Nations, NATO, the European community and the United States have cost billions of dollars and saved hundreds of thousands of Bosnian lives, but none has ended the tragedy.

Perry said the test of any allied action is whether it will decrease the violence or speed the peace. The United States and its allies believe lifting the arms embargo on Bosnia would not accomplish those two important objectives, so they rejected the idea.

Air strikes, however, might accomplish those objectives, he said. Perry said U.S. security officials worried about Serbian retaliation against lightly armed U.N. peacekeepers, none of whom is American. Second, they had to consider whether air strikes would indeed speed a settlement rather than increase violence. U.S. officials agreed America would not act alone on this issue under any circumstances.

Still, after weighing the pros

and cons, the U.S. security team proposed, and NATO agreed to, using a two-step military companion to the diplomatic effort.

"We're not undertaking the use of air power to turn the tide of the war or to favor one side in the war," Perry said. "We have no illusions that the use of air power would be powerful enough to impose a peace settlement on a nation that does not want a peace settlement."

NATO will place artillery-locating radar in Sarajevo. If anybody shells that city, the radar will track it to its source and an air strike will be launched against the source. Second, forces complied with a deadline to move their heavy artillery, mortars and rocket launchers 20 kilometers (about 12 miles) outside the city.

"Ethnic hatred once more is driving the Balkans to tragedy, another tragedy in their long history of tragedies," said Perry. "To avoid this nightmare of the dark, we are undertaking an effort - an intense military effort and a highly selective military effort - which together gives us some chance of avoiding this nightmare."

Tobers say thanks

To the District Staff: I'd like to express our sincere thanks to the District Staff for their lovely gifts for our new baby! Your thoughtfulness and generosity is touching. Thanks again!

Kathy, Ray & Cameron Tober



Coming Events at the lakes

Carlyle Lake

- May 7 Visitor Center Grand Opening
- May 21-22 Armed Forces Day
- June 20 Olympic Torch Run
- June 25 Kaskaskia Duck Race
- July 2 Fireworks Spectacular
- July 6-10 U.S. Olympic Festival '94
- Aug. 6 Triathlon
- Sept. 24-25 Conservation Day/Power Boat Race
- Oct. 21-22 Haunted Trail
- Dec. 2 Christmas Tree Lighting

Lake Shelbyville

- April 23 March for the Parks
- June 4 National Trails Day
- June 18-19 Arts and Crafts Show
- July 16-17 Tours of Old Lithia Springs Chautauqua
- July 30-31 Aqua-Fest
- Aug. 20 Okaw Indian Festival
- Oct. 6 18th Annual Eco-Meet

Rend Lake

- April 22 Earth Day
- May 21-22 Festival of Arts and Crafts
- June 4-5 Ski Show
- June 11 Family Fishing Derby
- July 2-4 4th of July Fireworks Festival
- July 30 Summer Beach Blast '94
- Sept. 10 Rend Lake Cleanup
- Sept. TBA Children's Arts Festival

Almost every Saturday between Memorial Day and Labor Day, special Environmental and Outdoor Skills programs are held at the Visitor Center. On most Saturday evenings musical and cultural heritage programs are held at the Visitor Center Amphitheater.

Wappapello Lake

- April 9 Spring Roadside Cleanup
- April 16-17 16th Annual Black Powder Rendezvous
- May 21-22 Silver Bullet National Drag Boat Race
- June 12 4th Annual Disabled Person Fishing Day
- July 2-3 Waterfest '94
- Aug. 20-21 3rd Annual Old Greenville Day
- Dec. 15-23 2nd Annual Festival of Lights Auto Tour

Mark Twain Lake

- April 30/May 1 Young at Heart Weekend
- May 21 An American Celebration
- June 11-12 And Still it Rained - Flood of '93
- Woodsy's World: A Child's Adventure into Nature
- July 1-3 Rodeo
- July 16-17 Reminisce - Post Card Exhibit
- July 24-25 Primitive Artifacts Weekend
- Aug. 13-14 Salt River Folklife Festival
- Sept. 23 Environmental Education Day
- Oct. 8 An Evening with the Stars
- February weekends - photo exhibit on Herman, Missouri - 1895-1920. March weekends - photo exhibit - Outdoor Writers Assoc. of America. April Weekends - Wetlands Exhibit. All at the M.W. Boudreaux Visitor Center.

Riverlands Area Office

- April 10-16 National Wildlife Week
- April 17-23 National Volunteer Week
- April 22-24 Earth Day March for Parks
- June 17-18 Melvin Price L&D Dedication
- July 1-4 Fireworks on the Mississippi
- Aug. 15-19 Rivers Curriculum Workshop
- Sept. Riverlands Environmental Fair

\$ – Promotions & Incentive Awards – \$

PERFORMANCE AWARDS:

George Croff, CASU
Carol Holten, CASU
Sylvester Jackson, CASU
Cathy Jaeger, CASU
John Rabbitt, CASU
Michael Hays, CO-NJ
Robert Gibson, CO-OS5
Andrew Griffith, CO-OSK
Dennis Morgan, ED-HG-G
Donald Groh, PD-F
Kathleen Kornberger, PM-M

Laurel Lane, PM-M
Riley Pope, PM-M
Mary Winston, RE-M
Diane Jones, RE-P
Carolyn Foster, RM
Gerald Rue, RO-LCI

QUALITY STEP INCRESSES:

Sharon McGee, ED

SPECIAL ACT AWARDS:

Jackie Brachear, CO-NC

David Berti, CO-NJ
Bradley Stamp, CO-NJ
Kevin Curran, CO-NR
Clarice Trigg, CO-Q
Joan Brickey, CT-P
Bradford Strauser, ED-HG
Claude Strauser, ED-HP
Donald Coleman, ED-HP-W
Janet Howard, EE
Terri Nicholson, HR-P
Karen Bautsch, RO-S



To your health

April is Cancer Control Month

Attention drawn to prostate cancer

The recent deaths from prostate cancer of celebrities like actors Telly Savalas and Bill Bixby have made people more aware of the disease.

The prostate, a walnut-sized gland at the base of the bladder, often grows as men age. Usually, this growth is benign, but sometimes it is cancerous.

The number of prostate cancer cases detected each year has been steadily increasing, partly because of diagnosis with PSA, a measurement of prostate specific antigen, a protein produced by the prostate.

Men have now discovered that prostate cancer is a problem of the same magnitude for them as breast cancer is for women. It is the most common cancer in men and the second leading cause of cancer

death in men. A 50-year-old man has a 10 percent chance of being diagnosed with the disease, and a 2 to 3 percent chance of dying from it. One in four men who develops prostate cancer dies from it.

For cancer to pose life-threatening problems, it must spread to organs such as the lungs or liver. Prostate cancer grows slowly and may take years to spread to other organs, but this happens all too often.

Dr. Patrick Walsh, chief of urology at Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions, says there are three courses to consider once this disease is discovered: Removal of the gland, radiation treatments, or "watchful waiting." Generally, he recommends:

* Men in their 50s should have

surgery. They are most likely to live long enough to see the tumor progress and die from it.

* Men in their 60s who are in good health should consider surgery or radiation.

* Men in their 70s probably have more advanced cases, but may not be candidates for surgery. Radiation therapy is a wise choice.

* Men over 80 almost always can safely opt for watchful waiting.

PSA measurement detects more than 90 percent of prostate cancers, but a high reading may be caused by other prostate problems. Additionally, some cancers are not found by the PSA measurement. It is, however, an excellent diagnostic tool which all men age 50 and over should use.

Preventing cervical cancer

Since development of the Pap test for detecting cancerous or precancerous cells, deaths from cervical cancer have declined by 70 percent. But there is one serious problem.

Studies by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists show that only about 60 percent of women notified of abnormal Pap results return to their doctors for follow-up treatment.

Up to 10 percent of Pap smears show abnormalities, but only one out of every 1,000 detects true cervical cancer. Other positive

tests are caused by other conditions.

Every abnormal Pap test must be followed up. Even though the cause may be nothing serious, finding the reason for an abnormality could save your life if it is actually cancer.

Women with positive tests are retested within a few months. If the second test is positive, the gynecologist will take a biopsy. If precancerous cells are then found, they can be removed in the doctor's office without anesthesia and with little pain.

Actual cases of cancer require additional surgery.

Sweets can set off a chromium alert

Eat a starchy meal, wash it down with sugary soda and top it off with ice cream and chocolate sauce. What happens then? Your body is drained of chromium.

Few of us get enough of this essential element. Chromium keeps insulin levels in check by making the hormone more efficient.

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the more insulin we secrete to process sugars, the more chromium we lose.

High insulin levels, an early warning sign for diabetes, may be

(Continued on next page)



Retiree Review

By the Retiree Correspondent

Thirty-six retirees attended the luncheon at the Salad Bowl, plus a District representative - Emmett Hahn. It being St. Patrick's Day, there was corn beef, cabbage and much "Wearin' of the green."

Bill Haynes again motored up from Farmington and again had the honor of being the Senior Retiree (1962). Estelle Huizenga was the only birthday gal present. Congratulations Estelle.

We were glad to see several who have not been with us for a while. Norma Kosta came and brought a guest, Ilene Hendrickson. Welcome Ilene, come back. Bruce Moore was back. Looked great and said he feels good. The Jim Bakers have returned from Sunny California for the summer. Glad to see them back.

Emmett Hahn had comments on the Doings of the District. Brought us up to date on the levee repairs from the '93 flood. Said they were 92 percent complete. They must be working around the clock! Of course we knew of the arrival of the new DE. The DE had to be in Cape Girardeau today. The 4th Annual Levee Meeting is tonight in Cape. Brings back memories of those levee affairs. Of course being a woman I couldn't attend those meetings unless they were in St. Louis or East St. Louis. Women couldn't travel to such affairs in those days. Now they have a lady captain who is conducting these meetings. And very ably I was told. Times sure have changed, haven't they? We hope the new Colonel can attend a meeting soon, so we can meet him.

Mr. Tim Hiller has come to the District as the new Chief of Resource Management. Hope he can attend a meeting soon.

Emmett presented a very interesting and informative slide show on levee damages and repairs. He commented on proposals for Valley Park, Ste. Genevieve and Columbia. The Weather Bureau has

predicted no major flooding for this spring! Certainly hope they're right this time. He reports no reorganization in the works at present.

Kate reported that Louetta Duff (Letty) had the misfortune to fall at the nursing home and sustained three clean breaks of the fibula just below the knee. She was in St. Anthony's almost two weeks, but is back at the nursing home and doing real well.

Audrey Maxwell is doing fine since her surgery for her torn rotator cup. Glad to see her back and looking great. Marie Puricelli is in St. Anthony's. She had surgery on a hammer toe, then developed a staph infection and had a second surgery to correct the infection. Let's hope they removed all the infection and she has a speedy recovery.

Elmer Huizenga had a call from LTG Letellier. He has had similar surgery that Elmer had last year. He's now doing fine. Good luck to him.

Lou Scheurmann reported the Spring Golf Tournament dates - District is April 25 at Tamarack and LMVD is June 22, 23 and 24 at Memphis.

Our lucky Pot O' Gold attendees were John Jansen, Bob Maxwell and Mary Ann Jansen. Congratulations!

George Clapp, Elmer Huizenga and Mike Cullen were our "Story Tellers."

Condolences are extended to the family of Robert Zurina, who passed away February 27. Bob was a long-time employee of the District. He was very active in his American Legion affiliations. He had been in a nursing home about two years, but continued his interests to the last.

You missed a very interesting and informative meeting if you weren't there. Come join us the 3rd Thursday, April 21st at the Salad Bowl. Be there about 11 for visiting, renewing acquaintances, information, and good food. See you then. Mark your calendar - April 21 for the Salad Bowl.

man team for prizes and handicap for Friday. There will be prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd in each flight, and for longest drive and closest to the pin. The tournament will hold a modified shotgun start each day. Tee time is 7:30 a.m.

All Corps of Engineers employees, retirees and family members are eligible. There will be a 72 player

maximum. Reservations are available April 4 through June 10. The course will be open to non-tournament golfers.

For more information call Fred Bader at 331-8035, Mike Cullen at 638-3893, Mike Kruckeberg at 331-8048, Dennis Gilmore at 331-8108 or Lou Scheurmann at 343-0073.



Russians Withstand Stalingrad 'Storm'

HITLER HALTED IN FROZEN HELL

Nazi hopes and dreams of victory were buried in the frozen hell of Stalingrad.

The Battle of Stalingrad began in August 1942 and lasted through February 1943. Had the *Wehrmacht* taken the strategic city on the Volga River, it would have cut the flow of oil to Soviet troops in the north.

The Red Army defended the city with tenacity and courage. From August to November 1942, the Nazis attacked. The Germans launched two pincer attacks — one from north of the city and the other from the south — and were stopped by the defenders. The Germans then attacked from the west, obliterating the industrial city with artillery

and bombing. The battle was not conducted in a city, but in ruins. Soviet soldiers suffered enormous casualties and eventually lost the city.

But Stalingrad became more than just a battle. It was a war of attrition. It was a symbol to the Soviet people and the world that the vaunted *Wehrmacht* could be stopped. On Nov. 19, 1942, the Red Army counterattacked across the Volga. In five days, it sealed off any escape route for the Nazi Sixth Army.

The situation inside the Nazi's Stalingrad perimeter soon became critical. The Russian winter took a heavy toll of life. The Germans

tried to airlift supplies to its besieged troops.

The German Army Group Don attacked to open an escape route for the trapped 200,000 men of the Sixth Army. The Germans called the effort Operation Winter Storm. The Russians withstood the storm and stopped the relieving column 30 miles short of its objective.

To stiffen the resolve of the surrounded German troops, Hitler promoted Sixth Army Commander Gen. Friedrich Paulus to field marshal on Jan. 30, 1943. Paulus surrendered Feb. 2, 1943, becoming the first field marshal in German history to be captured by an enemy.

